

HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL ITEMS



TRAINING-SCHOOL NOTES

GRADUATING EXERCISES

EXTRACTS from Miss Gilmore's Report read at the commencement exercises of the New York City Training-School for Nurses, May 31:

"MR. MAYOR, MR. COMMISSIONER, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN: Once more I have the honor of presenting to you a report of the New York City Training-School attached to the City, Maternity, Gouverneur, Harlem, and Fordham Hospitals, a report which marks the close of the twenty-seventh year of its existence.

"The beginning of our year, July, 1901, found us in a very unsettled condition, due to the legislation separating Bellevue and its dependencies from the Department of Public Charities. For a time it seemed as if our usefulness would be impaired, but I am glad to say the close of the year finds us more prosperous than ever; our field of labor has been widened, our curriculum extended, and many of our plans for improving and enlarging our home are in a fair way to be carried out.

"From July till December there was little to note; the school was just recovering from the strain put upon it by the opening of the new Gouverneur Hospital, and the only work done was to reestablish the routine, which had been somewhat interrupted during the early part of 1901. . . .

"In December two items came up for consideration and were approved. . . . The other was to pay for the lecture course of the Training-School by the city. This lecture course had long been a vexed question. The Advisory Board of the school had paid for these lectures to establish the course, which was necessary, and seemingly at that time could not be established in any other way. Ex-Commissioner Keller realized the absolute necessity for the continuation of the course, but did not see his way clear to pay for it. In December, however, he approved of the item, and the matter was laid over for our new Commissioner, the Hon. Homer Folks, who took office January 1. He at once approved of it, and I am glad to say that all outstanding bills for lectures, as well as this year's course, have been paid.

"In January two extra pupil nurses were added to the school for Harlem Hospital,—one for the dispensary and one for night duty. As there were only two nurses to care for the patients at night, and there were four wards and an operating-room to attend to, one can readily see how hard it was to give the patients proper attention if the nurses of the wards were to spend, as sometimes happened, three or four hours in the operating-rooms. Also two more in April were added for work at Gouverneur Hospital. The wards were very heavy, and as the allowance there is nine acute cases to a nurse and twenty-seven at night, one can easily see why extra nurses would be needed. . . .

"In March the question of the three-years' course for the school was discussed and a scheme drawn up. We had thought over the question of a three-years' course for some time, but could never see our way clear to broach the

subject for lack of room and the uncertain condition of our finances. As these obstacles seemed in a fair way to be overcome, we felt no hesitation in submitting the plans freely. I quote two paragraphs from the new regulations:

“1. That the course be lengthened from two to three years, the probationary period to three months, the three months to be included in the three years if the probationer is accepted.

“2. That the classes be formed quarterly, and that a preparatory course of study be inaugurated during the probationary period, so that when the probationer dons her uniform as an accepted nurse, she has passed all her junior examinations in anatomy and physiology, materia medica, practical nursing, hygiene, and sanitation and dietetics, and is thus equipped to take up her ward work intelligently, and we benefit the patients and hospital by eliminating the ignorant probationer from the wards.’

“The plans were approved and a date fixed for the first class for 1903, but in the meantime several new calls upon the school made it imperative that the course should be introduced at once, otherwise much confusion would ensue. We could not wait for the new building, therefore it became necessary to provide extra room at once, and this has been done. Two houses were found at the foot of East Fifty-first Street which would supply our needs, and they are being put in order and will be occupied next week.

“In May the usual examinations were held, the classes making creditable averages—the graduates, 82½; seniors, 82; juniors, 81.

“We feel that the nurses have a very valuable training here on account of the absence of the luxury of the modern hospital. Especially is this true of the maternity service, where, while we have sufficient to work with, yet the nurse must exercise her ingenuity at times to supply wants in an emergency. This makes her invaluable in private duty, where no house has all the conveniences of a hospital. A leading obstetrician in the city made the statement recently that he preferred the nurses of this school to any other on account of this qualification.

“Our work has gone on smoothly during the year. Our home has received some necessities in the line of new furniture, etc. Our food has been of sufficient quantity, and, except in one or two instances, of good quality. As a proof of this I would add that the percentage of illness for the year has been one-tenth per cent., and most of this was due to two cases of typhoid fever and one of pneumonia; the other illnesses were slight colds, due principally to change of climate.

“There were nine hundred and fifty applicants during the year, seven hundred and twenty-five of whom were eligible; sixty-eight were received on probation, fifty-eight of whom were appointed. There were six resignations during the year, three due to failure at examinations and three for ill-health; two pupils were dismissed for cause, and a class of twenty-seven pupil nurses and fourteen post-graduates receive their diplomas to-day. . . .

“Twenty-five years ago, on September 13, just two floors below us a little band of women, sixteen in number, were assembled. Their object was to discuss ways and means to empty the ward and decorate it for some festivity. In this they were assisted by men and women wearing the garb of the prisoner. They had little to work with, those devoted women; their eyes and ears were many times saddened by the sights and sounds around them, and there was little to cheer them from day to day, but they worked on steadily, and on this

evening they were allowed to receive their friends, to make merry for one short evening; and so they prepared the hall, and if some member of the band shuddered at the contact of the prisoner, she gave no sign but made the best of what she could not help. The preparations were a success, the friends all came, and, to crown all, about nine o'clock the Mayor of the city presented to each of the sixteen a diploma, stating that she was entitled to rank as a competent trained nurse. This was the first commencement of this school, New York City's first public acknowledgment of the infant member of its household, for New York City had called the school into being two short years before, and New York City, with very little help from a financial stand-point, has cared for the school ever since, and we expect—indeed, we feel that we can demand—that New York City shall care for us as long as the city exists unless we outlive our usefulness, which can scarcely happen as long as there are sick people to nurse, and we shall not deteriorate. Our motto is 'Onward and Upward.'

"From this commencement class of sixteen the school has grown. Then the nurses came to displace prisoners, men and women, who were sentenced to terms of hard labor, the labor being to care for the sick poor of the city. The imagination fails to depict the condition existing then.

"The whole place is changed since the prisoners have departed, from time to time, till there are none in connection with the hospital, their places now being taken by paid help. The nurses are taking care of all the patients, so that we now have one hundred and twenty nurses where we formerly had sixteen. Their practical work covers five hospitals, where it was then confined to a section of one, and the nurses have a home of their own instead of sleeping in small rooms off the wards.

"The memory of these old days is recalled here chiefly because it marks the twenty-fifth commencement, but also to make us more contented with our lot and to incite us to greater efforts in the future, when we think how much has been accomplished from such a discouraging beginning. . . ."

The Mayor, Honorable Seth Low, in addressing the graduates, remarked:

"If the Department of Public Charities, as represented on the side of its nursing, can be so completely revolutionized in twenty-five years, where is the citizen of such little courage that he will despair? What possible contrast could be greater than a condition of things where the sick and the poor had to be cared for by the enforced and uninstructed labor of the prisoners as compared with the situation suggested by this school, where the sick and poor of the city receive the very best of care from devoted women consecrated to their service and educated especially for that service and purpose. . . ."

"I have been shown, since I have been Mayor of New York, a great many of the public works in which the city is interested. My attention has been called to the power as illustrated in many ways, I have seen nothing that has delighted me more than that this great community, made up of so many different people, is able to bring to the care of the sick the touch of kindness which you represent."

Members of the graduating class: Margaret Presbury Young, Mary Agnes McClafferty, Lucy M. Moore, Luella May Olin, Helen Grant Hunt, Jean G. Dawson, Mary Katharine Wolff, Eliza Dabney Minor, Alice White Flint, Emma Elizabeth Haakew, Mary Martha Hough, Elizabeth Eleanor Weyer, Victoria Gertrude Brannan, Helen M. Radell, Elizabeth Morgan Hall, Ada DeAnne Davis, Effie D. Hamilton, Elizabeth Jane Roycroft, Anne M. Lyons, Mary E. Bir-

mingham, Louise Winne, Henrietta M. Lyons, Emma Frances Giblyn, Mary Emma MacEwen, Bertha H. Frazier, Agnes Gertrude Queenen, Selina A. Weigel.

Graduates of the post-graduate course: Anna M. Wade, Theresa Dunn, Helen Margaret Sheehan, Margaret M. Abbott, B. A., Edna Blanche Kline, Ada Creed Lynch, S. Matilda Wescoat, Estelle Beardslee, Isabelle B. Walker, Hannah Green, Elizabeth Gregg, Elizabeth Farrell, Annie J. Robinson, Edith V. D. Smith.

THE twelfth annual commencement exercises of St. Mary's Training-School for Nurses, St. Mary's Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., were held at the Pouch Gallery, Clinton Street, on the evening of May 20. In the absence of Dr. John Byrne, president of the faculty, Secretary Dr. George R. Kuhn presided, and in a brief address preceding the awarding of the diplomas complimented the class upon the high standard of general excellence attained and maintained by them during their three-years' residence in the hospital. A very fine musical and literary programme was well rendered.

General Isaac Catlin addressed the graduates in his usual able and entertaining manner. Miss Helen Noble Tucker was awarded first prize for excellence in class and practical work. Miss E. Henrietta Knauff delivered the valedictory address. After the exercises refreshments were served to the graduates and their friends, followed by dancing. Members of the graduating class were: Miss Minnie C. Marwick, Canada; Miss Lydia Elizabeth Laskowski, Brooklyn; Mrs. Beatrice Gertrude Macfarlane, Australia; Mrs. Annie Talbert, New York; Miss Helen Noble Tucker, Brooklyn; Miss Katheryne Ethel Marley, Nova Scotia; Miss Josephine Clarke, Brooklyn; Miss Mary Jane Whalen, Newfoundland; Miss Elizabeth Henrietta Knauff, Canada; Miss Mary Rose Gere, Syracuse, N. Y.; Miss Ada Francis Bedard, Canada; Miss Mary Louise Cashman, Canada.

THE commencement exercises of the Old Dominion Hospital, Richmond, Va., were held in the lecture-hall of the Medical College of Virginia April 28, at five P.M. An able and eloquent address was delivered by Mr. William R. Meredith. The annual report of the superintendent of the Old Dominion Hospital, Miss C. V. Austin, read by Dr. Christopher Tompkins, dean of the faculty, reflected much credit upon the institution and its corps of nurses.

Dr. E. G. Williams, professor of bacteriology of the Medical College of Virginia, in an appropriate address, delivered badges to the following graduates: Misses Blanche Corling, Martha Clopton, Martha Osborne, Emma Royall, Elsie Boyd, and Bessie Willis. A reception was given at the Nurses' Home that evening from nine to twelve o'clock. The following night the graduating class was tendered a banquet by the Alumnae Association at the Nurses' Club and afterwards a theatre party, which was much enjoyed by all the nurses and their friends.

ON the evening of June 18 the graduating exercises of the senior class of Grace Hospital (New Haven, Conn.) were held in Plymouth Church. The exercises were followed by an informal reception at the hospital.

The address of the evening was made by Miss Linda Richards, from the Taunton Hospital for the Insane. Her many years of experience in training-school work and her intimate acquaintance with the history and traditions of the nursing profession make it possible for her to speak with peculiarly

convincing force and emphasis of the duties and responsibilities of the trained nurse, and all who heard her address on this occasion could not but be impressed with the dignity and consecration of this work, as well as with its usefulness and importance. The members of the graduating class are: Miss M. E. Boyce, Miss L. H. Clements, Miss L. F. Herda, Miss B. C. Moran, Miss C. P. Cooke, Mrs. H. A. Curtis.

ON May 30 the graduating exercises of the Training-School for Nurses of St. Luke's Hospital, St. Paul, Minn., were held in Christ Church Guild Hall.

Dr. Charles L. Greene addressed the graduating class; the Rev. Theodore Sedgwick, chaplain of the hospital, also made an address, and the diplomas and medals were presented by Rev. C. Andrews.

The ladies of St. John's Church decorated the platform and hall with palms and cut flowers, and entertained the members of the class and their friends.

The fifteen nurses graduating were: Agnes Farrish, Georgia Neff, Florence Crosby, Bertha Hallcock, Mary Brown, Emily Woodman, Minnie Farrington, Carolina Paden, Margaret MacEwan, Florence McClean, Eleanor Mallough, Anna Emge, Martha McCaughey, Anna Mallough, and Julia Felix.

THE graduating exercises of the Class of 1902 of St. Luke's Hospital Training-School for Nurses, New Bedford, Mass., were held June 2 at four P.M. in the hospital parlors, which were gayly decorated with flowers, palms, and flags. The following nurses were presented with diplomas by Dr. C. D. Prescott: Miss Alice Gifford, Miss Katherine S. Clements, Miss Florence Freeman, Miss Beulah Priest, and Miss Josephine White. Addresses were made by Dr. William N. Swift and the Rev. Willis B. Holcombe. The hospital pins were presented by Mrs. Benjamin Anthony, president of the Governing Board.

The graduating class was given a dinner at seven P.M. by the Alumnae Association, after which there was dancing until ten P.M.

THE graduating exercises of the Rochester Homœopathic Hospital Training-School were held in the Gymnasium of the University of Rochester on the evening of June 12. The exercises were interesting and appropriate. Rev. Murray A. Bartlett made the address. Mrs. Hiram W. Sibley presented the diplomas to the following young ladies: Miss Jennie Dickens Gomm, Miss Anna May Fagan, Miss Nellie Julia Benton, Miss Halcyone Kuder, Miss Mary Antoinette Lehané, Miss Georgia Mills, Miss Mary Louise Tripp, Miss Mary Isabel Howley, Miss Bertha Hull Philips, Miss Mary Frances Sheehan, Miss Amy Lena Warner, Miss Ella N. Miller, Miss Mary Glass Maltby, Miss Grace Maxwell Armstrong, Miss Grace Foster Maynard, Miss Ida Jean Anderson.

ST. LUKE'S GENERAL HOSPITAL, Ottawa, was inaugurated July 26, 1898. The Training-School course is three years, consequently during that time only two classes have graduated—seven nurses the first year and four the second. The second graduating exercises took place May 30, 1902. Sir James Grant, M. D., addressed the nurses and Mrs. Sifton, wife of the Hon. C. F. Sifton, presented the diplomas and medals. The work of the hospital is increasing so rapidly that to meet its demands a number of nurses have been added to the staff. Each year will probably turn out an increased number of graduates. The superintendent of the school is Miss Chesley, Johns Hopkins Hospital graduate, 1896.

THE graduating exercises of the Class of 1902, Woman's Charity Club Hospital, Roxbury, Mass., took place on the afternoon of June 24. Mrs. Micah Dyer, president of the Charity Club, presented diplomas to the following nurses: Miss Elizabeth Lawson, Miss Ina L. Keith, Miss Elizabeth Guthrie, Miss Susan Eadie, Miss Mary L. Ammins, and Anna Lockerby.

THE following ladies graduated from the Milwaukee County Hospital Training-School for Nurses June 21, 1902: Misses Fern I. Fox, Ella Thompson, Emelia Hansen, Agnes Sheblok, and Mary O'Keefe.

THE Troy Hospital Training-School, N. Y., held graduating exercises June 12, nine young ladies receiving diplomas. Dr. Howard Kelley, of Baltimore, gave the leading address of the evening.

MISS SARA E. PARSONS, superintendent of nurses of the Adams Nervine Asylum, Jamaica Plain, Mass., sends the following:

"By invitation of the trustees and the superintendent, Dr. G. Alder Blumer, of Butler Hospital, at Providence, R. I., guests were given an opportunity to witness a demonstration in nursing by the pupils of the Training-School for Nurses connected with the hospital. It is to be regretted that more of those who are interested in the welfare of the insane and in the education of nurses for special work could not have been present.

"The much discussed question of training-schools in special hospitals is illuminated by the light of this school's six years of practical working.

"The demonstration was given in one of the infirmary wards of the beautiful new Weld House.

"After an address by Dr. Blumer, Miss Mary J. Moffitt, the superintendent of nurses, took charge of the exercises.

"The senior nurses gave demonstrations of bedmaking, a surgical dressing, the preparations for catheterizing, for giving hypodermic injections, and for forced feeding. The care of delirious patients, bandaging, restoration of a patient in collapse, artificial respiration, were exemplified. The taking of pulse, respiration, and temperature, the administration of medicines, and the serving of meals daintily, etc., were also shown. A room prepared for a major surgical operation was open for inspection after the demonstration.

"The pupils showed intelligence, kindness, and dignity as well as skill in their work, and their special training has taught them how to serve acceptably the most fastidious patients.

"This is a training-school not only in name but in reality. It has developed successfully to the mutual benefit of hospital and nurse. Miss Moffitt was warmly congratulated on the proficiency of her pupils.

"In return for the time and work the nurses give the hospital, they receive thorough practical and theoretical instruction. The opportunities for valuable nursing experience in a hospital for the insane are much greater than is commonly supposed.

"The material comfort of the nurses is not overlooked. They are provided with good food, attractive living accommodations, and the usual allowance for necessary expenses.

"Several of the Butler graduates have broadened their experience by post-graduate courses in other branches of nursing, and nearly all are doing institution or private work of a character that entitles them to rank as trained nurses in their specialty."

COMMISSIONER FOLKS has recently made several radical changes in the organization of the Training-School of the Metropolitan Hospital. It was formerly under the control of the superintendent of the hospital. The Commissioner has now appointed a Board of Managers, consisting of seven members, representing both the regular and homœopathic schools. He has also appointed a superintendent of the Training-School, Miss Jane M. Pindell, formerly second deputy assistant at the City Hospital, and Miss M. E. Bollerman, also a graduate of the City Hospital, as her assistant.

The following changes have been authorized by the Commissioner:

The course of training has been extended to three years; a thorough curriculum of study has been planned, including a series of lectures to be delivered by the attending physicians; and a six-months' post-graduate course has been established.

The Nurses' Home is being materially renovated and enlarged, and it is the intention of the Commissioner and Board of Managers that the school shall rank with the leading schools of the country.

The Board of Managers consists of the following members: Mrs. W. K. Draper, chairman; Mrs. J. W. Brannan, Mrs. Harold de Raasloff, Miss Eunice Ives, Mrs. Schuyler N. Warren, Mrs. Robert Sturgis.

At a meeting of the managers of the Butterworth Hospital, Grand Rapids, Mich., held June 17, the following resolutions were adopted:

"WHEREAS, Miss L. S. Smart has seen fit to sever her connection with Butterworth Hospital; therefore

"*Resolved*, That we express to her our warm appreciation of her earnest efforts in behalf of the hospital, that she has won our sincere regard by the dignified and faithful performance of her duties, and that we believe her connection with the Training-School, though short, will be lasting in its good results.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Miss Smart and to THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING."

MISS M. EDITH JOHNSTONE has been appointed to the position of superintendent of nurses at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, recently made vacant by the resignation of Miss Augusta Robertson. Miss Johnstone is a St. Luke's graduate, Class of 1895. Shortly after her graduation she returned to St. Luke's as head surgical nurse, and later was made assistant superintendent, which position she held with great efficiency until her present appointment. Miss Alberta Gage will succeed Miss Johnstone as assistant superintendent.

MISS ELIZABETH PARKER, who graduated from the Rochester Homœopathic Training-School in 1894, has resigned the position of superintendent of the Maryland Homœopathic Hospital, which she has held for several years, because of ill-health. Miss Parker will after a long rest take charge of the Training-School at the Muncie Sanitarium in Brooklyn, N. Y.

MISS MARY HOWLEY, a member of the last graduating class of the Rochester Homœopathic Training-School, has received the appointment as superintendent of the Nursery Building at the Western New York Home for Dependent Children at Randolph, N. Y.

MISS ELLA V. WILDERSON, principal of the Training-School of the Woman's Hospital in the State of New York, is taking a vacation at her home in Newton Falls, O.